

NEW MINERS' WAGE SCALE BEING CONSIDERED

OPERATORS AND MINERS CONFER

Four Coal Producing States Are Represented at Conference in Mobile, Ala.

THIS STATE IS LEFT OUT

Eleven Demands on the Part of Miners Are Presented to the Operators.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

MOBILE, Ala., Feb. 8.—Bituminous coal operators from western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois and union miners, representing a quarter of a million coal diggers in those states, met in joint conference here today to begin negotiations for a new interstate wage scale to take the place of the separate agreements which expire March 31.

The conference embraces the central competitive soft coal fields and the agreement to be drawn up in other soft coal states will be based largely upon the result of the present negotiations.

The conference is made up of thirty-two representatives of the operators and an equal number of members of the United Mine Workers of America, representing the four states. In addition John P. White, president; Frank J. Hays, vice president; and William Green, secretary-treasurer, of the miners' international organization, are taking part in the deliberations.

The operators have selected Hugh Shirkie, of Terre Haute, Ind., as the chairman of the operators' delegation, and, following the custom of previous joint conferences, he will be named permanent chairman of the meeting, with William Green of the miners as secretary.

The miners at their convention at Indianapolis formulated eleven demands to be presented to the employers. One demand calls for the payment of wages on the mine run basis, three relate to wage increases ranging from ten to twenty per cent, according to the class of work and the others call for a uniform scale for all classes, readjustment of the machine differential at the hauling points, eight-hour day from bank to bank, local grievances to be settled by the various districts, two-year contract, weekly paydays, and that every other Saturday be an idle day in lieu of Saturday half holidays.

MRS. WOTRING DEAD

Wife of Charles Wotring, of Rowlesburg, Dies in a Local Hospital.

Mrs. Edith M. Wotring, aged 22 years, wife of Charles Wotring, a Baltimore and Ohio railroad fireman, of Rowlesburg, who died in a local hospital at 11:15 o'clock Monday night following a surgical operation, was taken to her home at Rowlesburg Tuesday morning. The funeral services and burial will be held there. The funeral services will be held in the Methodist Episcopal church at Rowlesburg Wednesday.

Surviving relatives of the deceased woman are Charles Wotring, her husband; Luther Blair Wotring, a son; J. T. Flynn, her father; and Paul and John Flynn, brothers.

NEW COINS SHOWN

The Merchants National Bank was showing the new Panama-Pacific Exposition coins Tuesday. A half dollar and a gold dollar were the new coins. These coins were made especially for the Panama-Pacific exposition and the words are embossed on the front of each piece. The new money is very pretty and all seeing it are anxious to secure one of the pieces.

F. M. Robinson, of Lumberport, transacted business here Tuesday.

First Gun is Fired in Good Roads Campaign

Simpson District Residents Hold an Enthusiastic Mass Meeting at Bridgeport.

The first gun in the campaign to secure a \$200,000 bond issue to improve the roads of Simpson district, was fired Monday night when representative citizens of the district held an enthusiastic mass meeting in Bridgeport. Another meeting, which it is expected, will be much larger than the one Monday night, has been called for 1:30 o'clock Thursday afternoon. Every taxpayer in the district is expected to attend.

Experts in road construction will be present at Thursday's meeting and will discuss the best ways of improving the roads of the district. It is very probable that A. D. Williams, state road engineer, will be in attendance; if not, a representative of his office will be sent. Guy M. Harbert, Harrison county road engineer, will be on hand, and deliver an address.

At Thursday's meeting a report will be made by a committee of three appointed Monday night to gather data and outline the roads that need the most improvement, and those

SEVENTEEN COUNTS AGAINST THOMPSON

PETIT JURORS FOR MARCH TERM DRAWN

Of Criminal Court of the County by Jury Commissioners Post and Williams.

Petit jurors for the March term of the criminal court to appear Monday morning, March 13, for duty were drawn Tuesday as follows by Howard Post and Perry C. Williams, jury commissioners:

R. M. Fisher, Arthur Heinze, James Findley, Olandus West, Ransler Robinson, Lloyd D. Griffin, Isiah Conley, Henry Swiger, Adam Swiger, Adam Cookman, George H. Trainer, W. F. Sturim, George W. Williams, John F. Mason, M. L. Dinkin, Simon P. Davis, Stephen Bassel, H. B. Bond, Simeon Bond, Carl A. Davidson, George Reector, J. Earl Thompson, Addison R. Timberlake, Clifton H. Colgate, M. C. Wolfe, John Parks, Weaver Perline, Laco Davidson, Omer T. Talkington, William S. Blake, J. C. Garrett, H. L. Dean, Will J. Davidson, John L. Sehon, W. W. Hess, Lafayette Swiger, Mosby Hall, Leonidas Rhoades, Hiram O. Post, J. L. Jenkins, G. H. Lyon, John B. Strother, Chester Martin, Howard Sapp, Earl Lawson, Custer Allen, William H. Norman, James A. Williams and Jesse R. Plant.

Mrs. William L. Goppert, her sister, Miss Freda Henking, and Mrs. Elwood Wilson went to Weston Tuesday to be guests of Mrs. C. W. Halterman for a short time.

FREIGHT TRAIN RUNS WILD DOWN A GRADE

Engineer Leaps for His Life Down Mountainside and is Seriously Hurt.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

GRAFTON, Feb. 8.—An eastbound freight train on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad ran away this morning from Blaser station, thirty miles east of Grafton, at the crest of the mountain, down Cheat river grade.

Engineer W. G. Wolf, of Grafton, leaped for his life down the mountainside and was seriously hurt. Fireman W. F. Simmons, of Grafton, was also badly injured.

The train ran about eight miles down to Rowlesburg, where it was stopped without being derailed.

SUPREME OFFICER

Will Visit the Daughters of Sphinx Here Tonight.

All members of Rose of Sharon Court No. 3, Daughters of Sphinx, are urged to be at their regular meeting at 8 o'clock tonight. Mrs. Ada J. Stillyard, of Wheeling, supreme grand matron of the Daughters of Sphinx, will be present making her annual visit to the court. After the business meeting a social session will be held in the hall.

REVIVAL BEGINS.

A revival meeting was begun at the Stewart chapel Methodist Episcopal church Monday night with the Rev. J. E. Scott doing the preaching. It is hoped to accomplish much. The Rev. Mr. Scott is a strong pulpit orator and he will doubtless have fine success.

Are Returned by Federal Grand Jury in the Uniontown Bank Failure.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

PITTSBURG, Feb. 8.—Josiah V. Thompson, president of the First National Bank of Uniontown, which was closed by the comptroller of the currency a little more than a year ago, was today indicted by the federal grand jury on charges of alleged false certification of checks, making false entries, making false reports to the comptroller of the currency and perjury.

One blanket indictment was returned, embracing seventeen counts. Counts Nos. 1 to 8 inclusive, charge Thompson with certifying checks of W. S. Craft, treasurer of Fayette county, drawn on the First National Bank of Uniontown, when Craft did not have a sum equal to the checks on deposit.

Counts Nos. 9 to 15, inclusive, charge false entries and false reports to the comptroller of the currency.

Counts Nos. 16 and 17, charge perjury in swearing to the correctness of the bank statement. Count No. 16 is divided into three parts and the last count is divided into two parts.

Shortly after the grand jury retired for the noon recess, District Attorney Humes filed a formal motion for the issuance of a bench warrant for the arrest of Thompson.

"Is it necessary?" asked Judge Orr. "It is customary on such indictments," responded the district attorney, "so that the accused may be brought into court and the amount of bail determined."

"Well," replied Judge Orr, "we will take your motion and will determine it after I have disposed of another matter."

Later it was announced that Mr. Thompson would be allowed twenty-four hours in which to make his appearance and give bond. If however, he failed to appear at that time a bench warrant will be issued.

OPPOSANTS

Of Military Preparedness Are Heard by Federal Senate Military Committee.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Opponents of military preparedness were heard Tuesday by the Senate military committee. Miss Lillian D. Wall, of the Henry street settlement of New York, and Frederick C. Howe, commissioner of immigration at New York, were among the first five speakers on the list of speakers. The anti-preparedness committee, which arranged the hearing, submitted the names of John P. White, president of the United Mine Workers of America; James A. Maurer, president of the Pennsylvania Federation of Labor; Bishop Charles D. Williams, of Detroit; Charles Barrett, president of the Farmers Union, Union City, Ga.; Clarence Howard, president of the Business Men's League, St. Louis; and Governor Capper, of Kansas, but the committee decided to hear no more than five speakers.

COMBINE

Of Two Big Corporations is to Be Probed by the Department of Justice.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—The combination of the Midvale Steel and Ordnance Company and the Cambria Steel Company probably will be investigated by the department of justice as a matter of course. Information so far in possession of the department is that the two companies are engaged in different lines of manufacture and if that proves to be the fact no action is expected.

Officials had expected a combination between the Lackawanna Steel Company, the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company and the Cambria Company and had been promised a full description of that proposed merger. They were at a loss today to understand why this combination had failed and the other one come into existence.

HEART DISEASE FATAL.

Manuel Fernandez, aged 25 years, a Spanish employe of the Grasselli Chemical Company at Zeising, died at 11:30 o'clock Monday night, after a short illness of heart disease. The funeral services will be held at Fernandez's home at Zeising at 3 o'clock Wednesday afternoon and the burial will be in the Holy Cross cemetery there.

ROOSEVELT GIVES TEN WHOLE Dimes.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Feb. 8.—Marjorie Sterrett, a Brooklyn girl, who started a fund to build a battleship for Uncle Sam by sending a dime and writing a letter to a New York newspaper calling upon other children to contribute a like amount, is treasuring today a letter from Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, in which he enclosed ten dimes. Colonel Roosevelt said that four of them were for his four grandchildren and the other six for his grandchildren who are "not born yet." Marjorie's fund now amounts to \$55.30.

OPERATORS WAITING ON WASHINGTON

West Virginia Shippers Are Prepared to Fight Rate Increase.

West Virginia coal operators are still waiting for word from Washington, where counsel for the trunk railroads held a meeting last week looking to further action in the matter of the proposed increase of shipping rates on coal hauled out of the West Virginia fields to points east, west and north—an increase which the operators declare would, if made effective, ruin the coal industry in West Virginia.

Meanwhile, counsel for the coal companies are also preparing for action. It was said today, and the advance will be fought most strenuously before the Interstate Commerce Commission, before which the petitions of the railroad companies are pending.

RESULT OF PLOT

Is Destruction of Parliament Building According to an Anonymous Writer.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

OTTAWA, Feb. 8.—The Dominion police received today an anonymous letter, written under a Detroit date line, but with a Cleveland postmark, asserting that the destruction of the parliament building was the result of a plot.

The letter stated that if the authorities can locate certain persons having in their possession a thermite fuse material, almost invisible, but capable of sustaining a half pound weight and fusing at a temperature of eighty degrees, they probably will discover the origin of the fire.

GERMANS LOSE SMALL SECTION

Of One of Their Trenches in Active Fighting with the French in the West.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

BERLIN, Feb. 8.—Active fighting on the French front south of the Somme was announced today by the war office. In the course of the engagement the Germans lost a small section of one of the trenches they had conquered.

The statement continues: "The main attack by the French, which had been prepared for counter attack by heavy artillery fire, was repulsed."

"An attack by a German air squadron on the railroad station at Poperinghe, Belgium, and on British camps between Poperinghe and Dixmude is reported. The German airmen had several combats with hostile aeroplanes but returned without having suffered any losses."

FRENCH STATEMENT OF WAR OPERATIONS

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

PARIS, Feb. 8.—The following statement was given out by the war office today: "South of the Somme between Lowe and Chaumes our artillery cannonaded a train."

"In the Argonne we exploded a small mine at St. Hubert and three mines at Vauquois."

BATTLE WITH FIRE.

HOUSTON, Tex., Feb. 8.—Nearly a thousand men battled Tuesday with an oil fire on the Stevenson track at Humble. The loss soon after the blaze started was estimated at \$30,000. A driller named Hancock and a helper named Watt, were badly burned.

PERSONAL SUMMONS SYSTEM IS INVOLVED

In Bank Cases at Grafton and Decision May Overthrow State Procedure.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

GRAFTON, Feb. 8.—After five of the grand jurors of the jury which indicted Charles R. Durbin and John T. McGraw, former Grafton Bank officials, had testified, the state and defense agreed to call no more witnesses in the trial of the pleas in abatement, filed by the defense in circuit court here. Arguments of counsel opened early Tuesday morning and were still uncompleted Tuesday afternoon. Judge John H. Holt, of Huntington, argued for the defense late Tuesday afternoon. The court room has been crowded throughout the trial.

The point raised by the defense in this case is one which, if sustained, promises to overthrow the whole system of criminal procedure in West Virginia and will mean that not a man has been properly indicted since the present system was adopted. The defense claims that personal summons must be made upon the grand jurors by the sheriff in every case, and argues a manner of procedure that is said not to be followed within this state, at least, and possibly in few others. The state holds on the other hand that any notice, which in this case was a written one served by mail, may be given a grand jury, and meets with all requirements of the law. There is little doubt that if the local court holds the present system proper the supreme court will be asked to pass upon the points in dispute.

BREWING INTERESTS TO BE INVESTIGATED

By Federal Grand Jury in Pittsburgh as to Their Political Activities.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

PITTSBURG, Feb. 8.—Investigation of the alleged political activities of brewing interests in Pennsylvania, scheduled to begin before a federal grand jury here tomorrow suddenly appeared in the district court here today when counsel for the brewers filed a motion with Judge Orr and Judge Thompson, asking that the subpoenas already issued for their clients be withdrawn. The motion was opposed by E. Lowry Humes, United States district attorney, who asked that the question be quickly settled in order.

The motion proceeded, but the question went over until Friday afternoon. Filing of the motion developed that subpoenas had been served on the officers of the United States Brewers Association, Pennsylvania Brewers Association, Western Pennsylvania, Westmoreland and Allegheny County Brewers Association, and the Fayette County Brewers Association.

These men were ordered to produce before the grand jury all books and records, correspondence and by-laws, check books, minutes of meetings, and records of receipts and expenditures for 1911 to 1915 inclusive. Counsel for the brewers objected to the subpoenas because of their sweeping character.

SNOW BLOCKS ROAD TRAFFIC

Warm Breeze Brings a New Danger in the Northwest Section of County.

Two Persons Are Killed When an Avalanche of Mud and Rock Overwhelm Them.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 8.—The Chinookwind, a warm breeze, which rapidly sweeps away the snow, began in the Cascade mountains today and the railroads using the mountain passes are confronted with the danger of avalanches, while in the lowlands danger of floods became more serious. In many of the passes the snow is said to be more than thirty feet deep.

BRIAND'S VISIT

To Italy is Explained as Being for Purpose of Urging the Country On in the War.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

PARIS, Feb. 8.—In explanation of Premier Briand's visit to Italy the Matin says that the prolongation of the war led to certain difficulties for the Italian government, which, however, realizes that if Italy is to profit by the victory of the Allies, it must take an active part in the operations. "This will add to Italy's burden," says the Matin "but will also increase the advantage which it has to reap."

Mr. Briand's reputation as a long-headed statesman is well established in Rome. It was he who saw that the best way to protect Egypt was to stay at Saloniki, and the salvage of the Serbian army was due to his steadfastness. His visit to Italy will go far toward bringing about that absolute political and military unity of the Allies, which is a condition of victory.

BEESON BROWN ESTATE.

Lists of appraisements of the property of the late Beeson H. Brown have been filed in the office of the county clerk for recordation. They show a total value of property amounting to \$155,955.89, of which \$43,320 is real estate in this county, \$2,583.33 in real estate in Braxton county and \$110,052.56 in personal property.

RATE WAR

Is Alleged to Be the Real Cause of Gas Shortage in the Wheeling District.

(BY ASSOCIATED PRESS)

WHEELING, Feb. 8.—With approximately 25,000 men out of employment here as a result of another shortage of natural gas, the West Virginia Public Service Commission has prepared to investigate the situation and if possible place the responsibility. Manufacturers complained to the commission, alleging that the shortage was the result of a rate war and not due to natural causes. Inspectors are expected here tomorrow and it is said their inquiries will be extended to other communities, where, it is stated, there is an abundance of gas.

COMBINATION SCHOOL.

Pine Grove, Wetzel county, is to have a new building to house the grade school, together with the new high school established there last fall, as a result of the recent action of the district board of education. Pine Grove is in Grant district, which is one of the most important in the county in point of population and interest in educational matters.

Mrs. Orlin Davis went to Salem Tuesday to visit relatives for a few days.

FAMILIES SUFFERING BECAUSE OF RED TAPE

Cases of Destitution Are Reported by Club Women of the City.

Club and church women of the city who have interested themselves in the cases, declare that two families in suburbs of the city are in destitute and needy circumstances and that they are unable to receive aid such as they need because of too much red tape on the part of organized charities and the county government.

Living in Stable.

A Postlewaite family of a widow and four children at Industrial is one of them. Women who looked after the family found it living in a rough stable there not long ago suffering from illness and lack of food and clothing. The family was moved to other quarters and aid was given it, but it is still badly in need of the necessities of life. The oldest of four children is about seven years old. The father died in Clarksville about two months ago. Several months ago the family moved to Industrial from Parkersburg. The club women who reported the case to the Telegram declare that the Clarksville Associated Charities will not aid the family further than to furnish transportation back to Parkersburg. Mrs. Postlewaite does not want to return to Parkersburg.

All in One Bed.

The other case of destitution is that of a family named Goolley at Despard. When Clarksville church women looked after these folk they were in dire circumstances, the father being in the last stages of tuberculosis and the entire family of father, mother and four young children being forced to huddle together in the same bed in order to keep warm. The family is four months in arrears for rent of the house it is occupying. Club women say the Associated Charities offered to pay rent for the family for the present but refused to pay any rent in arrears. Other needed aid, say these women, has not been forthcoming from this organization nor from the county government, through the overwork of the poor. It is the aim of the women to raise enough money at least to pay the back rent for this family.

In Bitter Terms.

The women reporting these cases to the Telegram speak in very bitter terms of the fact that Clarksville people will open their hearts and send big sums of money to Europe when high cases of destitution need attention in Clarksville.

When the station of H. Frank Horr, chairman of the Elks' charity committee, was directed to the two cases, he announced that the lodge would render aid to both families. The club women concerned are requested to advise with him.